



Connecticut Guardian



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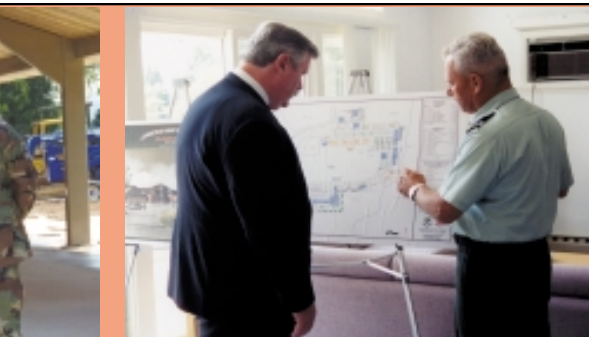
HARTFORD, CT

August 2000



VIPs Visit Connecticut National Guard.

Congressman James Maloney (R-CT-5th) listens as Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the Adjutant General, explains the plans for a new Leadership Regiment facility at Camp Rowland, as well as plans for future expansion and renovation of other facilities at



the National Guard Training site. Maloney also received information on recently completed projects. He then received a tour of Camp Rowland where he and Cugno visited with Maj. Joe Danao as he supervised some of the work being done on the new Family Pavilion at Camp Rowland. Maloney also received tours of the new FATS (Fire Arms Training System) facility where

he learned of the potential for civilian law enforcement training, the Physical Fitness Center and the new barracks project currently under construction. Also visiting recently was Representative Sam Gedgejenson (D-CT-2nd). Gedgejenson received a briefing as he visited the 250th Engineer Company in Sterling, Conn. Gedgejenson recently visited the unit as the 250th continued their



Rails to Trails community improvement project. He then received a tour of the construction site and visited with the troops. The Rails to Trails project in Sterling will continue to the Rhode Island border, and is an ongoing project designed to transform unused railroad tracks into recreational trails that people can use for hiking, jogging and biking.

SECOND LIEUTENANT TOWNSEND RECEIVES NAACP AWARD

By MAJ. CHARLES McKILLAR,
PUBLIC AFFAIRS HQ CTANG
CAPT. GEORGE H. WORNALL,
103rd FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER



Mr. Kweisi Mfume, President and CEO of the NAACP shakes Second Lt. Townsend's hand in Baltimore.

Connecticut Air National Guard as one of the recipients of the 2000 Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award.

The Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award is awarded annually to a number of American military personnel in uniform who have distinguished themselves by contributing to military equal opportunity policies and programs.

The Award was presented to Lt. Townsend for her work with the Air National Guard People Potential 2000, her efforts in promoting Diversity through her diversity web page at the 103rd Fighter Wing, and her participation in the Connecticut National Guard Black History Month Celebration. In 1998, Townsend established a program titled the Pursuit of a Dream Campaign, which introduces urban youth to the many career opportunities in the Connecticut Air National Guard. Townsend is also the advisory chairman for two Southwest Boys & Girls Clubs in Hartford.

"It is challenging and rewarding to work with youth and keeps me down to earth since it never lets you forget where you come from," said Townsend. Townsend credits her success today to where she began, citing her experiences in a Boys Club, not a Boys and Girls Club, but a Boys Club, to moving her in the right direction.

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On July 14, members of the Armed Forces, family members and friends gathered at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, Md., for the 25th Annual NAACP Armed Services and Veterans Affairs Awards Dinner.

The Connecticut National Guard had a contingent of personnel at the dinner to support 2nd Lt. Pamela D. Townsend of the

Three Purple Hearts, Two Bronze Stars and a CIB

By STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI, 65th PCH

With three Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars and the Combat Infantryman Badge among his numerous honors, Alton C. Beaudoin's most prized possessions continue to be the members of his family. He also seems to have a special bit of pride for his Good Conduct Medal.

In fact, he was not formally presented with the aforementioned awards mainly because of his devotion to his family. Ultimately, it was because of his family that he was presented with the awards July 3, 2000.

After being injured for the third time in the Pacific Theatre during World War II, Beaudoin was sent back to the United States to recuperate. He was honorably discharged on V-J Day, at age 32. Because of his desire to take care of his wife Ethel and their two sons, he skipped his own medal ceremony and returned to his Ohio home.

After nearly 45 years, and some help from his sons, Beaudoin was formally presented with the awards in a ceremony outside the Aaron Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility, where Alton and Ethel live. Residents of the facility honored their colleague at the special ceremony, which was attended by representatives of the military and elected officials.

The Connecticut National Guard assisted in providing formal recognition for the decorated veteran, and organized the ceremony in his honor. Brig. Gen. Ernest W. Cook, who is retired from the Connecticut Guard, was instrumental in helping James and Tom Beaudoin in their two-year effort to provide formal recognition

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UP FRONT WITH THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM A. CUGNO

A top priority of mine during this past year has been to develop a Legislative Action Plan (LAP). The Connecticut Legislative Session is now complete and the 106th Congress closes with the fall elections. Overall, we had great success with our State legislative priorities and marginal success with our Federal legislative priorities. Though none of our federal priorities were included in the Defense Authorization Bill, our resolve has lead to significant movement by congressional members on issues critical to Connecticut and the National Guard as a whole. Specifically, Connecticut continues to be instrumental in obtaining Congressional funding for replacing the aging UH1 Huey fleet with UH60 Black Hawks, the A10 Warthog modernization program, and funding for a Connecticut Civil Support Team (CST) which responds to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) threats. Additionally, we solidified our relationships with each Congressional member and staff and they are all very clear on my priorities and vision for the Connecticut National Guard.

Back home in Connecticut, we made huge strides among our State Legislators in "getting the word out" among the key leaders in both House and Senate chambers. We spent considerable time informing legislators and staff on who we are, what we do and what the evolving roles and missions are for the National Guard in the 21st century. Also, we were quite

successful in expanding our relationships among State agencies and in some instances exploring ways where we could partner off of each other to maximize efficiencies.

The Governor's Office was very supportive in addressing facility improvements critical to the welfare and training of our Guardsmen and State Militia. Bonding allowed us to build new dining and bathroom facilities in Stratford, Branford, Westbrook and New London armories; the new barracks and pavilion at Camp Rowland and future improvements to the Newtown and Avon Horse Guard facilities.

Here are the results of our State and Federal Legislative Priorities from the 106th Congress:

| Legislative Scorecard | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|-------|
| Priority | Go | No Go |
| Camp Rowland Military Academy* | | X |
| Orange Air Control Squadron* | | X |
| New Haven Armory* | | X |
| Niantic Armory* | | X |
| Civil Support Team* | | X |
| A10 Modernization* | | X |
| UH-60 Blackhawks* | | X |
| EMAC | X | |
| Military Funeral Honors | X | |
| Limited Law Enforcement Designation | X | |
| State Bonding for Military | X | |
| State Selective Service Act | | X |

**Although the 106th Congress is not expected to adjourn until October 6, 2000, federal priority did not receive necessary committee marks for Congressional passage.*



As I write this update, we are formulating our LAP for the 107th Congress. My Federal Legislative Priorities for our Congressional members will focus on equipment modernization, military construction, full-time manning and preservation of National Guard force structure as we (Adjutants General) enter the next Department of Defense Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR). Within Connecticut, I will focus on obtaining funding for armory and facilities improvements, new armory construction and quality of life issues for current and retired members.

I want thank the entire team: current and retired members of our Army and Air National Guard, the Selective Service Section, the NGAOT and OEM for helping us formulate and implement our legislative priorities for the 106th Congress. I wish also to express appreciation to the Congressional and State legislative staffers who we work with daily for their responsiveness and genuine concern for working our legislative agenda. Recognition also goes out to our Connecticut Legislators for their bipartisan efforts on our behalf. Finally, were it not for the personal involvement and support of Governor Rowland our legislative successes would have been nominal. As I travel the country I receive many positive comments from Adjutants General for the leadership stances Governor Rowland takes on issues of great impact to the National Guard and for his support in State to improve benefits and facilities for our Guard family. Looking forward, I am very optimistic about our legislative priorities and encourage all of you, active, retired, and civilian alike to become knowledgeable about our priorities and be able to discuss our priorities in your home town with State Legislators or Congressional Representatives.

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Deadline for submissions is the first Friday of the month prior to the month of publication.



By STATE COMMAND
SERGEANT MAJOR
STEPHEN L. PRIMETT

ENLISTED UPDATE

Up to 15,00 U.S.

Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers can now receive physical examinations, immunizations and dental screening at over 10,000 participating Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities and Federal Occupational Health providers.

The new program is called the Federal Strategic Health Alliance program, or FEDS-HEAL, after a successful pilot program last year.

Guardsmen and Reservists can now receive quality, cost-effective medical and dental services closer to home, rather than have to travel sometimes hundreds of miles.

Units can request medical and dental services for their soldiers and receive

approval and a service site through a central automated system developed during the pilot program. FEDS-HEAL will also relieve medical units from having to administer routine exams and screenings, will help create a better tracking system on medical and dental readiness and cost and will offset a decrease in available military medical facilities due to downsizing.

An estimated 45,000 more Guardsmen and Reservists will benefit when the program is expanded even further next year.

For more information, the memorandum of understanding outlining the agreement is available on Army link, a World Wide Web site at <http://www.dtic.mil/armylink>

Major General Cugno visits 103rd ACS during AFT

By MAJ. CHARLES MCKELLAR
PUBLIC AFFAIRS HQ CTANG

The 103rd Air Control Squadron completed its annual field training (AFT) at Otis Air National Guard Base (ANGB), Mass., on June 30. Named "Escapades at the Cape 2000," this 12-day, 400 mile, over-the-road deployment included 85 percent of the full-time and traditional guardsmen within the squadron.

The unit set up their tactical site on Wheelock Hill, a heavily wooded portion of the Massachusetts Military Reservation near Falmouth, after a six hour drive from the Orange ANG Station in Orange, Ct.

The convoy included 74 vehicles carrying 84 packed increments, which included the unit's radar, operations modules, satellite and ground radio communications equipment and made the trip without incident.

"The two-week deployment provided valuable training because the squadron had not deployed as a complete unit in over two years," said Maj. Richard Erdmann, commander of the 103rd Air Control Squadron (ACS). "Every duty section reported the completion of critical positional and ancillary training during AFT — training that is not possible during monthly unit training assemblies."

The unit's operations provided live-fly control of the F-15s stationed at Otis ANGB, and completed the deployment having controlled 10 air-to-air missions involving over 50 aircraft with error-free precision.

Maintenance personnel completed their training by employing equipment, erecting camouflage, generating equipment and

replacing critical components when necessary.

Last minute changes to the location of the participating satellite caused little concern to the wideband shop as they assembled, cabled and operated their eight-foot and 20-foot satellites within record time. Radar technicians had the opportunity to replace several major components and did so with minimal down time and no loss of live missions.

The 103rd ACS enjoyed the visits of three general officers. Brig. Gen. Lawrence Rusconi, the chief of staff of the Air Guard, spent a day with the troops on June 23.

The Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, visited the site and was able to meet and greet the technicians, learn of the ACS's air battle management mission and eat dinner with senior leadership on June 27. Brig. Gen. George Demers, the assistant adjutant general and commander of the Air National Guard, spent two days at the site.

He reviewed the work site and spent his last day reviewing the troops as they formed a Pass in Review in his honor.

The Escapades at the Cape became a fun filled event as the military formation included various contingents from a kazoo band to a group of four cowboy-hatted gentlemen performing western maneuvers. A good time was had by all as this ceremony closed out the formal training period.

"All personnel and vehicles returned to home station safely on June 30. The entire unit and visitors agreed that this had been the best squadron deployment that anyone could remember," said Erdmann. "We all look forward to the next one — next summer."

The Origin of Taps

During the Civil War, in July 1862 when the Army of the Potomac was in camp, Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield summoned Pvt. Oliver Wilcox Norton, his brigade bugler, to his tent. Butterfield, who disliked the colorless "extinguish lights" call then in use, whistled a new tune and asked the bugler to sound it for him. Norton, who on several occasions, had sounded numerous new calls composed by his commander, recalled his experience of the origin of "Taps" years later:

"One day in July 1862 when the Army of the Potomac was in camp at Harrison's Landing on the James River, Virginia, resting and recruiting from its losses in the seven days of battle before Richmond, Gen. Butterfield summoned the writer to his tent, and whistling some new tune, asked the bugler to sound it for him. This was done, not quite to his satisfaction at first, but after repeated trials, changing the time of some of the notes, which were scribbled on the back of an envelope, the call was finally arranged to suit the general."

Butterfield then ordered that it should be substituted in his brigade for the regulation "Taps" (extinguish lights) which was printed in the Tactics and used by the whole army. This was done for the first time that night. The next day buglers from nearby brigades came over to the camp of Butterfield's brigade to ask the meaning of this new call. They liked it, and copying the music,

returned to their camps, but it was not until some time later, when generals of other commands had heard its melodious notes, that orders were issued, or permission given, to substitute it throughout the Army of the Potomac for the time-honored call which came down from West Point.

In the western armies the regulation call was in use until the autumn of 1863.

At that time the XI and XII Corps were detached from the Army of the Potomac and sent to reinforce the Union Army at Chattanooga, Tenn. Through its use in these corps it became known in the western armies and was adopted by them. From that time, it became and remains to this day the official call for "Taps." It is printed in the present Tactics and is used throughout the U.S. Army, the National Guard, and all organizations of veteran soldiers.

Butterfield, in composing this call and directing that it be used for "Taps" in his brigade, could not have foreseen its popularity and the use for another purpose into which it would grow. Today, wherever a man or woman is buried with military honors anywhere in the United States, the ceremony is concluded by firing three volleys of musketry over the grave, and sounding with the trumpet or bugle "Put out the lights. Go to sleep"...There is something singularly beautiful and appropriate in the music of the wonderful call. Its strains are melancholy, yet full of rest and peace. Its echoes linger in the heart long after its tones have ceased to vibrate in the air.

GLORY IN CONFLICT THAT I MAY HEREAFTER EXULT IN VICTORY.

~ FREDERICK DOUGLASS



Major General Cugno talks with airmen of the 103rd ACS

Working Together to

By Capt. George Worrall, 103rd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Officer
SENIOR AIRMAN JULIE BRAGG, PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

The Alpena Michigan Combat Readiness Training Center deployment was the 103rd Fighter Wing's largest unit deployment since the 1995 Operational Readiness Inspection in Savannah, Ga.

The 103rd Fighter Wing arrived en-masse at Alpena on June 18. The small, 50-person cadre of Wing advance personnel and 70 Army Guard personnel were joined by over 200 wing members by the end of Father's Day. Four KC-135s brought the Flying Yankees into Alpena.

More planes brought the rest of the unit in June 19-20. The day prior, June 17, the Wing members on the advance team and the D.C. Army Guard's 547th Transportation Company (who transported the equipment) unloaded the trucks. "It worked like a charm with the Army Guard...the equipment is unloaded, positioned and ready to go," said 1st Lt. Wayne Ferris, plans officer for the 103rd Fighter Wing.

The overall concept for the deployment was simply get the training the unit needed and have a good time. "I look at the opportunities as being in two broad categories, training and MWR," said Col. Dan R. Scace, 103rd Fighter Wing Commander.

To make the off-duty time more enjoyable and reduce stress a variety of morale,

welfare and recreation (MWR) activities were planned throughout the deployment. Members enjoyed daily movies, shopping trips to a rea

stores, organized sporting activities and borrowed boats, bicycles, fishing poles and a variety of other equipment.

People enjoyed it so much there were waiting lists for equipment. "Bicycles are going fast so I think we will have a waiting list soon," said Senior Airman Jamal D. Rankins, fitness and recreation services specialist, 103rd Fighter Wing, on the second day of equipment checkout.

"On the training side, we accomplished a huge amount of training preparing ourselves for, and actually deploying," said Scace.

Fighter Wing members received combat arms training from the Nebraska Air National Guard. The training was of critical importance to the Wing's security forces squadron.

"It's fun and part of the job, too," said Senior Airman Jeffrey K. Baeder, security specialist, 103rd Security Forces Squadron. "I always try to get better because if you're a bad shot, then it comes down to you or whoever you're staring down the barrel at. With this training hopefully it's gonna be him."

The training was of critical importance to the Wing's Security Forces Squadron. All 31 Air Guard Security Forces members on the deployment received their firing training, which is more than half the police in the Wing. The Wing has a shortage of

instructors needed to conduct the training in Connecticut.

Three opportunities exist for instructors (E-5, E-6 and E-7) at the Wing. The school is 16 weeks long, and a member would need to cross-train into security forces and attend both the security forces academy and air base ground defense school for five weeks each. Members in CATM receive training with the M-16, Squad Automatic Weapon or SAW, M-203 Grenade Launcher, M-60 and 50 caliber machine gun, 9MM and shotgun.

The 103rd Services Squadron had an opportunity to receive training they normally would not get thanks to help from other Army and Air Guard units. A team of Army and Air Guard units provided the meals in the dining hall.

"If we had to cook we would not be able to run all the morale and welfare activities," said Maj. Barbara Luhn, services commander. "With the units taking on the cooking we are able to get the other training we need."

The 25 members participating in the cross-service dining hall are from the 547th Transportation Company, 140th Transportation Company, 74th Troop Command, F Company 425th Infantry Airborne Long Range Surveillance, 273rd, 274th, 275th, 276th Military Police companies, 166th Services Flight and 103rd Services Flight.

"Everybody is trying to work together to do the mission," said Army Spc. Linwood Moore, 547th Transportation Company, D.C. ARNG. Moore's sentiment was repeated by everyone interviewed even though experience levels ranged from less than a year to those about to retire.

"I've only been in a year. It's a good experience to get exposed to how a kitchen really works," said Airman 1st Class Latroy C. Mitchell, 166th Services, Maryland ANG. "I have learned a lot and I've only been here five days on my first deployment."

The 103rd Medical Squadron came for training also, but separate from the fighter wing for the first week.

The 103rd Medical Squadron trained with the 142nd Medical Squadron from the Oregon Air

National Guard in field conditions for Continuing Medical Readiness Training (CMRT). This training can only be accomplished by partnering with another medical clinic.

The CMRT consists of day and night training. Most troops are working shifts on two hours of sleep. The training involves receiving casualties, chemical attacks, providing medical service in chemical environments, litter carrying, triage and night navigation, an aircraft mishap exercise and a terrorist attack exercise.

Part of that training took place in a Military Operations Urban Terrain

exercise. A simulated terrorist attack took place in a simulated town (built for the training), in which there were a total of

22 military and civilian living and deceased casualties. The atmosphere was one of confusion and high stress, though the search and rescue, triage, and transportation mission was successful.

"This exercise is designed to frustrate these people and confuse them," said Staff Sgt. George Stevens, medical



Convoy from the 547th Transportation Company, D.C. ARNG, departs Bradley Air National Guard Base for Alpena June 13. (Photo by Senior Airman Julie Bragg)



Firefighters from the 103rd Civil Air Support Squadron practiced extinguishing a variety of fires at the Controlled Burn Facility. (Photo by Senior Airman Julie Bragg)



Master Sgt. Julie Janes, family program coordinator for the 103rd Fighter Wing explains the family program to Congresswoman Nancy Johnson who visited with the advance deployers June 16. (Photo by Senior Airman Julie Bragg)



103rd Fighter Wing members take aim at qualifying with the M-16. (Photo by Senior Airman Danielle L. Upton, 103rd Communications Flight)

Accomplish the Mission

readiness instructor, Alpena CRTC. One frustrating element of the scenario involved chasing a "psyche patient."

Tech. Sgt. Robert Burgess, public health technician, 103rd MDS, served on the patient retrieval team. "It's good to have mass casualty training, something that overwhelms the medical resources from time to time because we're all just used to treating one patient at a time," said Burgess. "Everyone's having a good time and working well with each other."

According to Master Sgt. Jon Hutchinson, 103rd MDS first sergeant, there are many new troops who are

experiencing this deployment training for the first time.

Connecticut's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, visited with some of those new troops during his visit.

"Once he sits down and talks to you he is really cool," Airman Meisha A.

Wright, personnel apprentice, 103rd Mission Support Flight. "He made me feel like an actual person; not like the lowest ranking person on the base," said Wright.

The general spoke with the members about guard education benefits, jobs, school and annual training at Alpena.

"He is really down to earth and easy to talk to," said Senior Airman Amy A. Ware, maintenance specialist, 103rd Air Generation Squadron. "When you talk to him, he really pays attention and really cares about what you're saying."

Cugno then visited with the D.C. Guard's 547th Transportation Company during their morning formation, toured the Alpena facility and the base where the A-10's practiced bombing. Before he left, he was suited up to fight fires and fight paintballs with our own security force members in mock urban warfare.

Combining training elements and some

good relation building activities, members of the base watched a unique mock battle.

The 547th Transportation Company exercised dispersing a convoy while the F Company 425th Infantry

Airborne Long Range Surveillance practiced their ground forward air control skills by bringing in the 118th Fighter Squadron's A-10s to attack the convoy.

"They (547th TC) are giving us a great opportunity to acquire, track and shoot moving targets," Lt. Col. Daniel L. Peabody, 118th Fighter Squadron Commander. "It is a rare training opportunity for us."

The 547th's soldiers had an opportunity to practice their defensive formations as they spread out to protect from collateral damage.

"I got a lot out of the training," said Army Spc. Lafayette Williamson, who drove the convoy's target vehicle. "It showed us what to do in a situation like that if we ever got attacked. It was exciting when the aircraft came down that close... something I've never seen," he said.

The rangers took advantage of the training opportunity to practice calling in emergency close air support with the A-10 pilots.

"Our role is to visually ID the target ...



Connecticut and Oregon medical squadron members train to remove casualties from urban areas during in Alpena June 24. (Photo by Senior Airman Julie Bragg)

F Company 425th Infantry Airborne Long Range Surveillance.

"The rangers did a really good job. We did an hour of academics on the ground first ... then they did the [mission] exactly," said Maj. Jim S. Pavlica, flight lead for the A-10 mission, 118th Fighter Squadron.

The key event of the training deployment was the Operational Readiness Exercise. "From the evaluators standpoint the 2000 ORE was a huge success on several levels," said Col. Thad Martin, evaluation team chief and 103rd Fighter Wing Vice Wing Commander.

"Historical problems like Self Aid and Buddy Care, shelter management and Ability To Survive and Operate were minimal to non-existent from the outset of the exercise. The effort that went into preparing made the difference as people appeared confident and willing to engage in the play," said Martin.

Most of the unit experienced the new

Contamination Control Area procedures during the ORE. The new procedures are less than a year old.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Morelli from disaster preparedness, "The new procedure for decontamination reduces the number of augmentees by two-thirds. Now we only need five people to run a CCA."

The new procedure uses the buddy system. "With the proper training and a number of times going through, I believe it will work better than the old system," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Scheidel, who experienced the process for the first time Saturday.

Many members of the wing had an opportunity to travel to the gunnery range and see the A-10's in action.



Senior Airman Scott Lesage, security specialist 103rd Security Forces Squadron, leaps to return a shot in an intramural volleyball game put on by Morale Welfare and Recreation in Alpena. The Security Forces Squadron went on to win the intramural volleyball championship. (Photo by Senior Airman Julie Bragg)

"It was very interesting to see the A-10 mission," said Senior Airman Joe Kasper, 103rd Maintenance Squadron. "It was a rewarding experience that proved to be the highlight of the trip."

The first mission of

the deployment was to get training since "Next fall we'll be the lead unit [for the Air Expeditionary Force] responsible for all three participating A-10 units," said Scace.

From all accounts, mission accomplished.



Master Sgt. Russell A. Wheeler and Airman 1st Class Antonio M. Margarido attend to Staff Sgt. Eric D. Rowland who was simulated injured during a chemical warfare attack exercise June 25, all are from the 103rd Maintenance Squadron. (Photo by Capt. George H. Worrall)



Guard members watch the mock battle as 103rd Fighter Wing A-10's simulate attacking a convoy of the 547th Transportation Company, D.C. ARNG, June 22 at Alpena. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryon M. Turner, 103rd Communications Flight)



BY MAJ. SHERMAN McGREW, 65TH PCH

TASZÁR, HUNGARY—One of the great benefits to being assigned to the United States National Support Element in Hungary is that I get to travel extensively throughout not only Hungary, but also down into Bosnia, also known as “The Box.”

The Box is also called downrange. The most intense area in Bosnia is the Zone of Separation (ZOS). The closer one gets to the ZOS, the greater the damage that is seen. I had the unique opportunity to ride one day to the ZOS with Rihad, one of the interpreters in Tuzla for the Coalition Press Information Center (CPIC).

Rihad fought during the war in Bosnia and is a wealth of information on what occurred there. As we passed through a valley, I noticed that every house was destroyed. Rihad told me that it was next to impossible to do this with artillery because artillery is an area weapon. (Thanks, Rihad, but I did come from the 1-102 Infantry before this Public Affairs Officer job). Anyway, what occurred was a concerted effort to completely destroy the homes in this valley. Each house was methodically blown up with explosives so that only the foundation remained. That way even after the fighting stops, your enemy has nowhere to go home to.

The next stop was downtown Tuzla—another study in contrasts. Here we walked in the shopping area under arms. One of our soldiers, Sgt. Michelle Slapski, plays soccer for the Stabilization Force (SFOR) team at Eagle Base. She needed to get some soccer cleats. Watching her try on cleats with an M-16 slung over her shoulder was

worth at least a triple take. Not your average weekend drill.

The town square in Tuzla has a memorial. Back during the fighting, the square was ranged by a mortar crew, basically registering their weapon system. Three days later, the square was filled with people on a weekend when a round was fired. The aim was perfect. The projectile landed about 20 feet from the center of the square killing 71 people in the square and wounding over 200. The buildings still show the marks from the shrapnel.

Tuzla is rebuilding now. There are still, however, moments when things are just too bizarre. The shops have put a priority on merchandising and selling. The attitude seems to be that the repair of war damage can come later. There is a shoe store that has a new window and a poster of Mariah Carey advertising for them. The outside walls of the store are full of holes from artillery and mortar rounds.

It was then back to Eagle Base and the CPIC. Here's another clue for those preparing to deploy: Be proficient in your basic military skills. The journalist, both print and photo, regularly (too regularly, according to them) pull guard duty for Eagle Base. This involves getting into full battle gear and patrolling the perimeter, being the first line of defense for Eagle Base. Not exactly the type of thing these soldiers expected to do when they were training at the Defense Information School to learn how to cover stories. The moral is simple—be a soldier first. Know your weapon and how to use it. You may be a mechanic, clerk, journalist, etc. in the Guard, but when deployed, you will be called upon to do a basic soldier's job with your weapon. Count on it.





Dispatches from the Front

By **SGT. JOSEPH C. DECARO, 65TH PRESS CAMP HEADQUARTERS**

EAGLE BASE, Tuzla — It's the 4th of July and one very busy week for our Press Camp and also for the 102nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment of the Mississippi National Guard.

To begin with, I was transferred from my windowless prison in the Talon office to our MPAD where I will be doing a lot more stories and photos. Though the work of a photojournalist may be more demanding here, I've seen more of Bosnia this last week than I have for my first two months in country as an editor for the Talon.

After my transfer, we received a visit from civic leaders and business types from Texas, who promptly got the nickel tour of the country. Then came a Texas barbecue with the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders for desert.

If that wasn't enough excitement, the Coalition Press Information Center's cat gave birth to four kittens. How patriotic of her.

But I guess all that was too much for me. When I woke up this morning I noticed something about both my temples that I have never seen before in my 40 plus years — gray hair!

Thank you, Bosnia. Perhaps now I will finally look my age.

EAGLE BASE, Tuzla — The number 13 can be lucky, especially if it's LFOR XIII (Laugh Force 13) — a trio of stand-up comics from Los Angeles, Calif., who performed at Triggers here July 2.

The comedy troupe was preceded by the humor of Spc. Charles A. Tirrell, C

Company, 111th Engineer Battalion, who — despite being awake for the last 24 hours — warmed-up the standing room only crowd with jokes about daily life here.

"Eagle Base, I love ya," he said in his Midwestern accent

Ladies first, Jenee Spellman — a former waitress turned comedian — began the LFOR operation with jokes about gambling, dining facilities, spending all your money in Taszar and sexual harassment.

"It's why I go to work," she said of the latter.

Up next was Peter Gray — a self-professed master of improvisational comedy — who made light of military recruiting, the martial arts, near beer and high school philosophy.

"If a tree falls in a forest and no one hears it, wouldn't it just get up and pretend nothing happened," he said.

Last but not least was Joey Medina, a former cop who spent a total of four months in the military at Fort Jackson, S.C.

Medina joked about everything from the coarseness of German toilet paper to sexual abstinence in the Army.

"Even the Amish have sex," he said.

Medina — who has performed here three times — said Bosnia hasn't gotten any better.

When asked why they came to Eagle Base at all, Gray said it was a great opportunity to see the world.

"People appreciate you more here," he said.



EAGLE BASE, Tuzla — Service members here can learn much about the local flavor of Bosnia and Herzegovina, but not by reading the Talon alone.

Even a military magazine editor should learn about Bosnia from Bosniacs, and the best way to do that on Eagle Base is to get outside the wire through a Moral, Welfare and Recreation sponsored day tour of nearby Tuzla.

The name Tuzla comes from the Turkish "tuz" or salt said Ines Erdeljic, a local journalism student who pays her way through college by being a tour guide.

Erdeljic compared Tuzla to Austria's Salzburg or "salt town."

However, unlike Salzburg, the salt mines under Tuzla have caused the town to sink 30 meters over the past two centuries.

When the bus arrived in Tuzla, the tour began with a visit to a cemetery overlooking the town on a hill called Slana Bana or "salt garden." The hill bore both the old and the new tragedies of Tuzla; a memorial to the town's World War II dead and the graves of 51 — out of a total of 71 — people killed by a Serbian rocket that struck into the heart of old Tuzla in May 1995.

Other evidence of that conflict can be seen in the shattered mortar and plaster of the buildings surrounding the town's square. But a more poignant reminder can be found in a visit to Tuzla's Bosfam Fashion House.

Bosfam is a non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 1994 to assist displaced women who had lost their husbands, fathers and sons in the war, according to the Bosfam brochure.

The original plan for these women — initially funded by the British charity Oxfam — was occupational therapy based on their traditional handicraft skills of carpet weaving, rug making and sewing.

After the war, the concept changed from

therapy to self-sufficiency for these women and what was left of their families.

Other examples of Tuzla's attempts at self-sufficiency can be seen in the numerous shops and storefronts, especially those stores and sidewalk vendors selling CDs for a mere seven marks.

However, Chief Warrant Officer Wade A. Van Gilder and U.S. contractor Pedro J. Salado — both of Eagle Base's property book office — soon discovered that all the stores that glitter don't necessarily have any gold.

Van Gilder said he and Salado went to a total of three different stores — an upscale clothing outlet, a toy store and a gift shop — and none of them could make any change for a purchase.

The tills were empty — they couldn't even change 50 marks, said Van Gilder

He said this indicated there was no real cash flow, which is essential to stimulate Tuzla's economy.

"We will have peace as long as you guys (Stabilization Forces) stay here," said Erdeljic. "We will have jobs. Many of my friends work on Eagle Base. Please stay. Don't leave."

As Erdeljic and her tour group walked the streets of Tuzla, a man pointed to the SFOR personnel — all of who carried either a 9-mm or an M-16 rifle — and called out to them in Serbo-Croatian.

"You don't need those weapons here," Erdeljic translated. "You're safe with us."

And apparently they had every reason to be so.

It isn't enough to talk about peace. You must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. You must work for it.

~ Eleanor Roosevelt





Diversity Dialogue

Twelve Most Frequently Asked Questions About Diversity in the Air National Guard

Part 4 of a 4 part series

RESPONSES BY DR. SAMUEL BETANCES
SENIOR CONSULTANT, SOUDER, BETANCES AND ASSOC.
INC.
SUBMITTED BY SENIOR MASTER SGT. TONY PALLADINO,
HQ CTANG
STATE HUMAN RESOURCES ADVISOR

Question 10: How do you know when you have a diverse organization?

You know you have a diverse organization when you have a balanced workforce which is reflective of the talent from the various interest groups in your community/state.

You know you have a diverse organization when the diverse talent reflecting all of God's children are represented at all levels and ranks of the Air National Guard.

How do you know you have a diverse organization? If the next time you are making an important decision, you look around, and everyone looks like you, you are doing it wrong. And, if the next time you are making an important decision, you look around, and everyone does not look like you, but everyone thinks like you, you are really doing it wrong!

You know you have a diverse organization when a critical mass of your talent pool in

the Guard appreciates or understands that diversity, like quality, is not a destination, but a journey.

Question 11: Isn't diversity the recruiter's responsibility since they recruit the people in our organization?

Recruiters are key as gatekeepers for making a strong, persuasive case to potential new talent. But the reputation of a Unit, State or for that matter, the Air National Guard, as an inclusive, empowering, collaborative and productive workplace is the responsibility of all. This reputation precedes any formalized recruiting pitch.

All members of the Guard are recruiters or detractors depending on one's behavior and willingness to embrace the challenge of change. It is one thing for recruiters to do their job and bring in people, it is another matter entirely to keep these new recruits energized and committed Guard members.

Question 12: Our organization is military in nature, does diversity mean we have to accept all people?

Not all people, but Guard members must accept all team members from every group in our heterogeneous society in order to get the job done. Let me explain. In sports, people of different backgrounds, beliefs, and heritage/cultural groups create teams, where they become interdependent on each other to achieve a common goal. The Guard must create similar teams in order to accomplish its mission. Teamwork reduces prejudice.

The Air National Guard must keep the team paradigm in mind when dealing with

the issue of diversity. People from all groups must be welcomed in workteams in order to pursue excellence in the implementation of each Unit's agenda in keeping with the core values of the Guard. To become accepting of each member of the team is essential for the collaboration needed in order to achieve common work goals.

Soldiers in military units unwilling or incapable of working in teams to achieve the mission of their organization will compromise that mission.

Every member of the Guard must be open to the challenge of eagerly respecting, communicating with and

accepting members of their team to get the job done.

"Together we succeed" is a practical theme in view of changing demographics and the challenge of seeking unity through our diversity.

All things are
difficult before
they are easy.

English Proverb

Safe GUARDing Connecticut's Youth

By MAJOR CHUCK STRONG,
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION ADMINISTRATOR

Marijuana: Facts Parents Need to Know

A Letter to Parents

Marijuana is the illegal drug most often used in this country. Since 1991, lifetime marijuana use has doubled among 8th- and 10th-grade students, and increased by a third among high school seniors. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) research shows that accompanying this upward pattern of use is a significant erosion in antidrug perceptions and knowledge among young people today. As the number of young people who use marijuana has increased, the number who view the drug as harmful has decreased. Among high school seniors surveyed in 1997, current marijuana use has increased by about 72 percent since 1991. The proportion of those seniors who believe regular use of marijuana is harmful has dropped by about 26 percent since 1991.

Q: What happens after a person smokes marijuana?

A: Within a few minutes of inhaling marijuana smoke, the user will likely feel, along with intoxication, a dry mouth, rapid heartbeat, some loss of coordination and poor sense of balance, and slower reaction time. Blood vessels in the eye expand, so the user's eyes look red.

For some people, marijuana raises blood pressure slightly and can double the normal heart rate. This effect can be greater when other drugs are mixed with marijuana; but users do not always know when that happens.

As the immediate effects fade, usually after two to three hours, the user may become sleepy.

Q: Can a user have a bad reaction?

A: Yes. Some users, especially someone new to the drug or in a strange setting,

may suffer acute anxiety and have paranoid thoughts. This is more likely to happen with high doses of THC. These scary feelings will fade as the drug's effects wear off. In rare cases, a user who has taken a very high dose of the drug can have severe psychotic symptoms and need emergency medical treatment. Other kinds of bad reactions can occur when marijuana is mixed with other drugs, such as PCP or cocaine.



Q: How is marijuana harmful?

A: Marijuana can be harmful in a number of ways, through both immediate effects and damage to health over time. Marijuana hinders the user's short-term memory (memory for recent events), and he or she may have trouble handling complex tasks. With the use of more potent varieties of marijuana, even simple tasks can be difficult.

Because of the drug's effects on perceptions and reaction time, users could be involved in auto crashes. Drug users also may become involved in risky sexual behavior. There is a strong link between drug use and unsafe sex and the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Under the influence of marijuana, students may find it hard to study and learn. Young athletes could find their performance is off; timing, movements, and coordination are all affected by THC.

More information on Marijuana and its long term effects can be found at the website www.health.org.

The world belongs to
the energetic.

~ Emerson

EDUCATION ESSENTIALS

As we approach mid-summer, our office continues to process tuition waiver applications. These should begin arriving at your schools in late July or mid-August. For those soldiers who did not apply, you may still put the applications through your units. Time is of the essence, but we will continue to process applications as they come in.

We have additional funds available for tuition assistance. Process your applications (DA Form 2171) through your units. A word about tuition assistance: if you are late in filing with your school and pay out-of-pocket, our office does not reimburse you. Your school will either give you the money back or credit your next course.

As usual, we have multiple tests on hand. If you are looking to pick up some college credits, call us and arrange to take an exam or two.

By CAPT. SCOTT BROWN
EDUCATION SERVICES
OFFICER



There are several scholarships available. ROTC now grants scholarships to Guard members and the National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT) has scholarships available for Association members, their children and spouses. The suspense date for the NGACT scholarship is Aug. 15. Contact this office, ROTC or NGACT for more information and applications.

Finally, I will be on Annual Training with the 1/102nd Infantry (L) "HOOAH" from August 5 to Aug. 19 and at an education officers course from Aug. 20 to Aug. 24. Cpl. Harvey will be on AT from Aug. 12 to Aug. 26. Please leave a message with an emergency issue and we will assist you in the order of your call when we return. If you have an issue with the Veterans Administration, call 1-800-442-4551.

A Long Journey to the Gold Bars

By Sgt. 1st CLASS DEBBI NEWTON

It's been a long journey that started 14 months ago for the 16 new second lieutenants of the Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG). It was a journey that started at Camp Rowland and took the young officers to Stone's Ranch and Fort Bragg, N.C. and back to Camp Rowland, finally ending with a commissioning ceremony at the Sub Base in New London.

Fourteen months ago, the officer candidates reported to Camp Rowland for the first of two weekend drills that would orient them to the Officer Candidate School run by the 1st Battalion (OCS), 169th Leadership Regiment and would introduce them to the rigors of the school and the soldiers who would be their instructors, mentors and TACs (Teach Advise Counsel). They in-processed to make sure all their paperwork was in and correct, they were checked for ID cards and dog tags, and they went through the height and weight station. Following this, they immediately went into a physical fitness test. Only the best, brightest and physically fit can expect to make it.

Then the hard work really began. Two weeks of a consolidated Phase I with over 100 officer candidates from the eight state region that makes up the Leadership Regiment. Fellow students traveled from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York and New Jersey to join the Connecticut candidates for an intense two-week annual training period at Camp Rowland. Again, they went through the in-process phase with some needing to take the PT test.

During this phase, candidates received training in a variety of areas including land navigation, field leadership exercise (FLX), training management, operations, leadership and yes, more physical fitness.



The navigation training was split into three phases: written exam, day course exam and night course exam. There is no buddy system with the day and night course. You are on your own to complete them. To pass the day course, a candidate must find five out of seven points within a specified amount of time, and to pass the night course, three out of five must be found. Every opportunity is given the soldier to pass the course. If someone does not succeed the first time around, retraining and a retest are administered.

During the FLX, a six-day field exercise, students are observed for development and assessment of officer leadership skills, ability to give military instruction and briefings and development of skills necessary to successfully survive in a field environment. Blocks of instruction included in training management are Train Subordinates, Conduct Risk Assessment, Train a Team, Train a Squad and Apply

Team Development, followed by a Training Management exam.

During Operations classes, candidates learn how to coordinate staff activities, troop leading procedures and how to issue an oral operations order. The Leadership portion of instruction prepares candidates in Military Customs and Courtesies, Leadership Doctrine and how to identify ways in which national, Army and individual values and professional obligations relate to each other.

This all takes place while candidates are holding rotating positions of leadership and conducting daily PT, which could be anything from circuit training to three-mile battalion runs through the town of Niantic at six in the morning, to three-mile rucksack marches around the post with full rucks.

After a successful two weeks, candidates return to their home states where the local Regional Training Institute (RTI) continues the training of candidates for the next year. Then they all come together once again at Fort Bragg, N.C. for Phase III of their transformation from candidate to officer. Here, every bit of training is accomplished in a field environment. It's constant movement from the time the soldiers hit the ground, until it's time to leave.

"It's intense," said newly commissioned 2nd Lt. Cassandra L. Allsop of the training received at Fort Bragg. "I decided to go to OCS to better myself and go as far as I could in the military. The training at Bragg was all battle-focused training. I was surprised to find that I really enjoyed being in the field."

According to Allsop, the training at Bragg included such things as squad and platoon battle missions, the Leadership Reaction

Course, an obstacle course, and what might have been the highlight for many, the Combat Water Survival Training.

"There were three parts to this training," said Allsop. "First we had to swim 15 meters with our LBE (Load Bearing Equipment) and M16 rifle. Then we had to go into the water backwards and take our LBE off before we could surface, and finally we went to 10-meter board where we were blindfolded and had to walk off the edge of the board falling into the water. They did not force anyone to do this that really did not feel comfortable, but it certainly increased your self-confidence to accomplish something like that."

Despite the fact that the 14 days were accomplished with only a few hours sleep per night, and soaring temperatures and humidity during the day, this was the first cycle in Fort Bragg's history to go through their training without a single heat casualty. Allsop credits this to the use of the new camel back water systems now being used by many soldiers.

"It was really easy to drink water this way," said Allsop. "Our hands were kept free so we could continue the mission and stay hydrated at the same time. We were also given rest periods throughout the day, which helped."

Allsop also said that the candidates from Connecticut and New Hampshire trained together for the last two months before going to Fort Bragg. "We were definitely the best trained in troop leading procedures and operation orders when we got there. Several of our classmates were put in leadership positions right away, partly because we were the first ones to hit the ground, and partly because the instructors there could see what we were capable of."

Classmate Donald Chiverton, a newly commissioned second lieutenant with the 143rd Military Police agreed with Allsop's assessment of the leadership skills of his fellow classmates.

"We received almost all the leadership positions," he said. "We set the tone for the whole AT period. We were responsible for room assignments, verification of

Continued on page 15



WATER AND SHADE

By CAPT. SCOTT WILSON, ASSISTANT PAO

Water and shade...any hot, weary individual would be happy to receive such an

offering. The 192nd Engineer Battalion worked through its Annual Training (AT) to provide them, but the road to their attainment did not contain any for the soldiers working through the hot summer days to get there.

During the month of July, the 192nd Engineer battalion had its AT at Stone's Ranch and Camp Rowland. "The focus this year is to take our engineer units and, rather than send them somewhere else, use them to improve our training areas," said Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the state's Adjutant General. The focus of the unit's missions was to improve the accessibility and usability of the Stone's Ranch training area, as well as contribute to the "campus environment" model being espoused for present and future improvements to the Camp Rowland facility.

The 192nd, along with its subordinate 247th and 248th Engineer Companies, embarked on meeting its mission objectives by doing road improvements and drilling a well at

Stone's Ranch, and by the construction of a large pavilion at Camp Rowland. The 192nd set up its command and control at Stone's Ranch, and got right down to business.

"This is one of the best well drilling detachments in the country," bragged Cugno when asked about the 192nd's well drilling efforts at Stone's Ranch. He added, "...and it is a unit with a great mission. These folks go into a village in another country, and they build this well that becomes the center of influence for the village. It is very rewarding work." Sgt. 1st Class Steve Downs, the NCOIC of the detachment, agrees. "We have a varied personnel base in this detachment - students, a geologist, a truck driver, a corrections officer and others. Our varied backgrounds and ideas really help us to complete our mission." Downs himself is an operations manager at an environmental firm.

The well drilling detachment was formed during Desert Storm, when a need for fresh water wells in the desert was identified. The Department of the Army brought the training school to Connecticut and trained the detachment. The unit did not end up

deploying to Desert Storm due to the quick end of the war, but it has reaped the benefit of the training. The detachment currently has a 600-foot depth capacity and can reach 1500 feet in depth with an addition to the existing equipment. The unit's real differentiation from commercial well drilling outfits is its mobility. "Our mission is to drill a well anywhere ordered. Commercial folks can't do that," notes Downs.

The detachment has deployed four times since inception, mostly to Central American countries (Panama, Honduras, Guatemala). "This is really a great unit with a great mission. It's actually been shown that our well drilling can help decrease the infant mortality rate for a village by as much as 40 percent...that's not bad for ten ordinary guys and gals from Connecticut," Downs boasted proudly.

For the Stone's Ranch mission, the detachment has reached a depth of 365 feet, and constructed a well that yields twenty gallons per minute. "We can produce higher (gallon) yields because, usually, we don't have the time constraints of commercial drillers. We can 'sit on the hole' an additional day, pump air into the

well to clear it out and get better results," Downs explained.

Several miles away, members of the 192nd were busy constructing a pavilion at Camp Rowland. The pavilion, a massive structure of steel, concrete and wood, is to be used by Guard personnel for training out of the sun or during inclement weather and by Guard personnel's families for picnic and other outings.

"This is a great project for our soldiers," noted Capt. Eric Hood, OIC of the project. "It gives them an opportunity to work in their MOS (Military Occupational Specialty), and really build on the base of training they have received with some real-world experience. This pavilion was designed and purchased (prefabricated pieces) by our engineers, and is now being built by them." The pavilion is also aligned perfectly with Cugno's vision of enhancing Camp Rowland so that it has a more "campus" environment.

Water and shade...what a wonderful offering. We can only say thank you for a job well done.





Looking Back Toward the Future

By **STAFF SGT. (RET.) MARVIN J. GOLDSMITH,**
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 242ND COMBAT ENGINEER
BATTALION,
MAINTENANCE SECTION

Recently I was looking at my old photo albums from my Guard years (Sept. 1965 to June 1990) and it brought back a lot of memories. Over the course of time our National Guard newsletters have kept us informed of the many current happenings and of the future direction of Connecticut's Guard. It has proved that the only thing constant is change.



Looking back to my years, we were at the beginning of major changes. When I joined, my NCOs (Paul Grasso, Ralph Sastram Jr. and Anthony Vallombroso) took me under their wings and helped me through the transition into the Guard. Why I joined was as an alternative to being drafted. I wanted to do my duty, but didn't like the options of Canada or Vietnam. If someone told me then, that I would stay almost 25 years, I would have told them they were crazy. Why people enlist today is different - they want something different - they want change and challenge.

In the early years of my enlistment things really changed from boring to a sense of purpose, a sense of accomplishment. One of the first things to change was our method of training and our equipment. We went

from digging holes one weekend and filling them in the next, to a major makeover for Stones Ranch. These changes utilized the energy of the Guard

- the training, the planning and the doing! No section of the unit was left out. The old stone building near the Barn by the upper garages came down, roads were being improved, and airstrip was being started in the lower meadow and an equipment compound was in the works.

Changes in equipment came fast, too. Our old Willis Jeeps (M38s), our two half-ton dump trucks (M59s), our two-and-a-half ton wrecker, the three-quarter ton trucks (M37s), the two one-half ton

went hydraulic, solid frame loaders (H90s) became articulating ones (MW24s).

Over the years, any officer in the state who was career minded did

a rotation through the 242nd Engineers for combat unit command training. Even Maj. Gen. (William A.) Cugno did a tour or two with us. As

commander of the 242nd Engineer Battalion, he held the distinction of being the youngest fulltime battalion

commander in the U. S.!

The development and use of our equipment has led to newer, commercialized, economical and versatile equipment. Today's Guard is no less in the throws of change. We started with two-and-a-half ton trucks, and now they have 10 tons - what's next? Only time will tell. Down the road, today's soldiers will look back and say, 'Damn, look at this equipment. Back in my day'



To today's Guardsmen I say, "I was at the very end of the Brown Shoe Army and at the beginning of yours.

The most valuable benefit you will ever get from the Guard is priceless and cost free - lasting friendships."

I wish to thank E-7 Paul Grosso (now WO4 Ret.), Ralph H. Sastram Jr. (now WO5 Ret.), Sgt. Tony Vallombroso (now colonel) and the many others who guided and supported me through 25 years with the

242nd Engineer Battalion and the Connecticut National Guard.



Training for Bosnia: Infantry Style

STORY AND PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI, 65TH PCH



As they prepare for their deployment to Bosnia, members of Company B, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry must first prepare for Annual Training 2000. That 15-day period, to be held August 5-19, at Ft. Dix, N.J. will be instrumental in preparing the unit for its six-month deployment to the Balkan region scheduled for next year.

The soldiers, who collectively have a great deal of training to prepare them for war, are currently expanding their skills to include peacekeeping operations in preparation for serving in the NATO operation.

During A.T., the unit will conduct platoon-level field training exercises, highlighting assaulting positions, base-camp security, checkpoint operations, mounted and dismounted patrols and live-fire operations. In order to be successful at the platoon level, they will break down the operations to the squad and team levels. The unit, which has not had a problem obtaining the approximately 90 volunteers necessary for the mission to Bosnia, expects a very intense annual training period in the heat of August.

The infantrymen continue to work on their traditional skills, but at a more intense level, even as they experience their first peacekeeping training as a battalion. During their July drill, the infantrymen worked on advanced marksmanship, platoon-level movement to contact and assaulting an objective. These tasks are certainly not new to the battalion, but the current training places a deeper focus on advanced marksmanship training, which is viewed as a crucial element of the advanced skills required for the unit's active-duty mission.

"We'll be carrying live ammo every time we exit the camp (in Bosnia), so the advanced marksmanship training is a huge step in getting us ready," said Capt. Robert

Brafford, Co. B.'s commander, stressing principals of operating safely at the platoon level, especially in close quarters. "We have to pay special attention to muzzle discipline and muzzle awareness."

"There's a focus on acquiring a target, firing upon the target,

making sure it's down, then placing the weapon on safe and handling it safely. This has been very successful on active duty in ranger battalions; they require this prior to all live fires.

It's very rigorous training," said Brafford, one of the many soldiers in the unit with ranger experience.

The primary instructor for the advanced marksmanship training, Staff Sgt. Chris Chappell,

stresses repetition in training, especially regarding weapon safety. This will be especially important during the unit's annual training period, which will consist of extensive live-fire training. Among the tasks will be platoon-level fire and maneuver with live ammo, including Military Operations in Urban Terrain.

"Normally they (members of the 1/102nd) get just limited MOUT training, so this is going to be more advanced. We'll be moving and shooting on live-fire ranges," said Chappell, referring to the training planned for Ft. Dix. "If you do it the same way every time in training, then you'll do it properly and safely (with live ammunition). This is especially important with muzzle discipline."

The training the 1/102nd Inf. is undergoing displays the complex nature of a peacekeeping mission. With all the emphasis on peacekeeping operations and Rules of Engagement, the infantrymen still need to perfect the basic and advanced combat skills necessary to keep themselves

safe in dangerous scenarios.

"We have to retain our skills as soldiers, in case we have to become a reactionary force," said Staff Sgt. Greg LeBeau.

Although the upcoming peacekeeping mission will be a new experience for most of the soldiers who will serve in Bosnia, several members of the unit have trained as peacekeepers, and some have real world experience.

Just over a year ago, the 1st Bn., 102nd Inf. sent a platoon to represent U.S. Forces in Cooperative Best Effort, a peacekeeping exercise involving soldiers from NATO and Partnership for Peace countries. The Connecticut citizen-soldiers joined international soldiers with extensive peacekeeping experience to form multinational units, during the realistic exercise held in a vast Canadian training area.

The Connecticut Guardsmen worked closely with their foreign colleagues,



displaying their expertise in infantry tactics while acquiring peacekeeping tactics. They were then able to return to the Connecticut to share that knowledge with their fellow Guardsmen.

"We've shared a good bit of information, but a lot more will be shared at annual training," said Spc. Adam Janeczek, who deployed to Valcartier, Quebec for CBE '99.

Janeczek shares information from his own experience in training, but also looks forward to learning more from other unit members. "We've got some people who have real world, peacekeeping experience.

They're excellent resources."

Annual Training 2000 at Ft. Dix, N.J. will be a major step in preparing the soldiers for their Bosnia mission, with an emphasis on force protection, according to Lt. Col. Thomas Stefanko, the battalion commander. "We've constructed a 'mini-Eagle Base' at Ft. Dix," Stefanko said. Eagle Base in Tuzla, is the main base for U.S. forces in Bosnia. The unit will utilize the training at Ft. Dix to demonstrate differences between traditional infantry training in the woods, to peacekeeping in urban environments. "We'll have a bit of a shift in the way we've trained as an Army for more than 360 years, to something different."

While unit members are learning new skills for their complex mission, they are also learning new information about a complex region of the world. The unit has devoted up to four hours per weekend drill for several months, studying the history, culture, socio-economic factors, various religions and other information on the Balkan region and its people.

Soldiers have also been provided with extensive resources, including websites, to allow them to educate themselves. Battalion representatives also attended a debriefing by the commander of the 10th Mountain Division. Two former members of the division, which recently returned from Bosnia, are now members of the 1/102nd Inf., and have provided valuable insight for those without such experience.

Pfc. Sotero Rijos, a college student and a ward attendant in a veterinarian's office, has gotten some good information from a different source. He recently visited an uncle, who is a major in a Florida Reserve unit.

"He was with one of the first Reserve units to be mobilized for Bosnia," Rijos said. "He said 'Keep your nose clean; and watch your back... And watch your buddy's back!'"



T.G.I.F.**The Guard
Is Family****Space A Travel Available**

To get information on Space A travel destinations and times, contact any of the following:

Westover Air Force Base, Springfield, Mass.

Call (413) 557-2549 for a recorded schedule of flights and instructions on reserving space.

Quonset Airport, Rhode Island Air National Guard

Stop by Base Operations or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: 143 AG/CP, 7 Flightline Drive, North Kingstown, R.I. 02852-7548 COMM: (401) 886-1405/1419/1420 DSN: 476-3405/3419/3420

Space A listings are published every three months. Also ask for the latest copy of helpful hints for traveling with 143 AG.

If you have access to the Web, go to www.ee.umd.edu/medlab/spacea/. The site has lots of information on traveling Space A and links to terminals that even let you sign in online for Space A. It also provides phone numbers and fax numbers for sign ins.

The Connecticut Family Program Office Resource Centers at the Soldier Airman Support Center on Maxim Road in Hartford and Camp Rowland have copies of the Space A basic Training Handbook and Installation Handbooks with phone numbers and other information.

For your relaxation Station go to: <http://www.armyvr.com>. There's lots of vacation, travel, entertainment, leisure, lodging, sports and recreation information.

And don't forget that ITT (Information Tickets and Tours) at the New London Sub base has discount admissions to lots of attractions such as Mystic Seaport or Aquarium, Busch gardens, Virginia, Sesame Place in Pennsylvania, Disney World, Hoyts movie theaters, Sturbridge Village and many others. Call and save money. 1-860-694-3238.

**Nothing is so difficult
that it cannot be
accomplished with
diligence.**

~ Terence

**ESGR**

By Lt. Col. (Ret)
Harry Ritson
ESGR Public Affairs

One of the most important missions of Connecticut's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee (ESGR) is to keep each member of the Guard and Reserve Components aware of their civilian employment rights and responsibilities and those of their employers. This is primarily accomplished through the twelve ESGR volunteers on Connecticut's Mission One Team. Each of the 120 Guard and Reserve units in Connecticut is assigned to a volunteer who is responsible for briefing each unit at least once a year on the provisions of the Uniform Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) and its recent application and resolutions in cases here in Connecticut and across the nation. This is important because USERRA provides employment protection for all Guard and Reserve assemblies including AT and weekend drills as well as longer periods

of activation.

These volunteers also provide information about other services and programs offered by ESGR, and become the unit's local point of contact in obtaining information or actually utilizing those services. The name and contact telephone number of each unit's Mission One volunteer can be found on an ESGR poster on the unit's bulletin board. Some of those other programs include:

Ombudsman: Provides employment protection information relating to specific situations of individual reservists. Resolution of employer related difficulties should initially be attempted through discussion with the employer or by working through the military chain of command. If this doesn't work, assistance from the local ESGR Ombudsman is appropriate to help in mediating a resolution.

ESGR Awards Program: Provides a medium through which ESGR recognizes

and grants awards to those employers who are particularly supportive of their employees who also serve in either the Guard or the Reserves. The ESGR volunteer is the source of information about this program which is based on nominations from military members. Nomination forms entitled, My Boss is a Patriot, are available from the volunteer.

Briefings With the Boss Program: Periodically, Guard and Reserve members in a geographic area of the state are invited to extend an invitation to their employers to attend a briefing along with other local employers, military representatives and members of Connecticut's ESGR Committee. The goal is to promote an understanding of the value of employing members of the Reserve Components, their increasing importance to the nation's defense and foreign policy and the current and potential impact this has on employers.

NGACT: National Guard Association of Connecticut

By Lt. Col. Bill Shea
President

The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) will be holding its 122 Annual General Conference in Atlantic City, N.J. from Sept. 12 to Sept. 14, 2000. As in the past, The Connecticut national Guard will be sending a delegation to this conference. As Atlantic City is close by, this is a great opportunity to attend a national level conference for and about the National Guard.

Lt. Col. Tom Heath, Connecticut Air National Guard (CTANG) and Maj. Bob Pernell, Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG) are the respective Air and Army secretaries for this conference. They will be publishing a flyer with detailed information regarding the conference.

If you are interested in attending, please contact either Heath or Pernell. They can be reached at the following:

Lt. Col. Heath: (860) 292-2327 or via e-mail at thomas.heath@ctbrad.ang.af.mil

Maj. Pernell: (860) 493-2758 or via e-mail at robert.pernell@ct.ngb.army.mil

Additional information regarding the conference can also be obtained from the official NGAUS 2000 Conference web site at <http://www.ngaus2000.org>.

Attendance arrangements for the conference must be made through either Heath or Pernell. Don't wait until the last minute.

WARNING ORDER

All Connecticut Army National Guard Officers

(Active and Retired)
are invited to the

85th Troop Command Annual Officers Dining-In

Hosted by the 143 FSB

9 November 2000
Aqua Turf Club
Southington, CT





Continued from page 9

personnel, and overall setting the pace.”

He also talked about the most difficult part of Phase III being having to deal with the heat coming from New England. He also credits the camel back with lack of heat injuries at Fort Bragg, as well as the heat-related injury education the candidates received from the staff.

“We were taught about things like hydration, getting enough to drink and then drinking more, eating enough food, and watching our salt intake. All of these things are key, and we were educated well.”

Chiverton, a 16-year member of the military, said he made the decision about six years ago to attend OCS. He was then a member of Company D, 169th Aviation and had developed a very good relationship with his company commander who urged him to go back to school and get his degree. It took him a while to do, but it is something he

is very proud of and has paid dividends now that he has become an officer.

“I’ve gained so much from the program,” said Chiverton. “I now feel I have the ability to approach a senior officer and say things like ‘Sir, I think we should be doing this...’ I can express my feelings and share my expertise. I can do it and feel comfortable. I’m more confident in my abilities. That is one thing that OCS is really good at.”

But looking back to when he first started the program, even Chiverton admits you’d see somebody else.

“After 16 years in the military, I didn’t think they could teach me anything new,” said Chiverton. “I already knew it all. What can you possibly learn after 16 years? Yeah, it was cockiness. I have learned so much. I’ve learned I still have a lot of work to do, things to learn. I’ve learned I still have a lot to learn about becoming a good officer.”

And he will now have that chance to continue his education. On a muggy Saturday morning in July, Chiverton, Allsop and 14 of their closest friends from the past 14 months, took their oaths as second lieutenants in front of family, friends and members of the military on a stage at the Sub Base in New London.

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Frank A. Avallone, a graduate and former commandant of the old Connecticut Military Academy, was the keynote speaker. He told the new officers that what they had just been

through for the past 14 months was hard, but what was ahead of them “is really the grind. You have three challenges ahead of you - your family, your job and your leisure time. You have to keep everyone informed of what you do, thank them and make time for the, You are basically now running three careers.”

He urged the new officers to “MBWA - Manage by wandering around. Let your soldiers see you, get to know them. Don’t micromanage, don’t hang over their shoulders, just let them know you are there for them. Take care of your people. Educate them, nourish them with understanding and keep them informed.

“There is one thing you should do as soon as you get to your unit,” Avallone advised the officers. “The first person you attach your hip to is your NCO, your platoon sergeant. Let them do their job, but watch them. Learn from them. They are the key to your success as an officer.”

It has been a long journey to the gold bars, but a journey that all would agree is just beginning.

The following awards were presented to members of OCS Class 45 during their Commissioning Ceremony:

The Regimental Commanders Award (Honor Graduate): **2nd Lt. Heidi A. Young**

The Erikson Trophy (Academic Achievement): **2nd Lt. Raymond S. Chicoski**



The Peer Award: **2nd Lt. Raymond S. Chicoski**

The Physical Fitness Award: **2nd Lt. Jacob D. Johnson and 2nd Lt. Heidi A. Young**

The Military Order of World Wars: **2nd Lt. Thomas R. Dillon**

The NGUSA Award: **2nd Lt. Benjamin J. Neumon**

The AUSA Award: **2nd Lt. Jeffery T. Ritter**

Remaining members of OCS Class 45 are:

2nd Lt. Cassandra L. Allsop

2nd Lt. Donald J. Chiverton

2nd Lt. Evan A. Evans

2nd Lt. Steven D. Landry

2nd Lt. Pamela A. Lebejko

2nd Lt. Barrett C. Michel

2nd Lt. Peter J. Rivera

2nd Lt. Donald F. Stadolnik, Jr.

2nd Lt. Dwight A. Washington

2nd Lt. Dean A. White

Nineteenth Annual SENIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER FORMAL DINING-IN

DATE: 5 October 2000 (Thursday Evening)

TIME: 1830 Hours

PLACE: Aqua-Turf Club, Southington, Connecticut

COST: THIRTY-NINE DOLLARS (\$39.00)

ELIGIBILITY: Noncommissioned Officers and Chief Petty Officers, E-7 and above. All eligible ARNG and ANG NCOs are expected to attend. CPOs are invited to attend. Retirees are most welcome.

UNIFORM: Army Dress Blues with Bow Tie or Army Greens with white shirt and black bow tie. Appropriate attire for other services. Retirees may wear the uniform or a business suit as meets their desires.

HOST: Command Sergeant Major, Connecticut Army National Guard

GUEST SPEAKER: **CSM Collin L. Younger US Army**
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs

APPLICATION DUE DATE: Military Protocol requires prompt response (within 72 hours of receipt of flyer).

I will attend the Senior NCO Dining-In on 5 October 2000.

My check in the amount of \$39.00 is attached.

NAME: _____ RANK: _____

Home address: _____

_____ Zip _____

Code: _____

UNIT: _____

Indicate your preference for Fish in lieu of Roast
Beef: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: “CSM Stephen Primett”

Mail returns to: Command Sergeant Major
Connecticut Army National Guard
National Guard Armory
360 Broad St.
Hartford, CT 06105-3795

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD CONCERNING THE DINING-IN!

Let other E7 and above NCOs and CPOs, who have never attended, know about this grand affair. NCOs and CPOs make it happen!

No responses accepted after 25 September 2000

The Issue of Socialization

By COL. ANTHONY VALLOMBROSO

I recently attended an Equal Opportunity Orientation Workshop at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) at Patrick Air Force Base. This professional program was presented by a highly qualified and diverse staff of military and civilian instructors from every branch of our armed services. During the short five day program, experienced facilitators walked the class through many practical issues addressing racism, power and discrimination, sexism, extremism, perceptions, power and privilege, affirmative actions, diversity and several others.

The most important area was one of socialization which is the process of dealing with the basics of how we act and react with our social values, how these values interact with our attitudes and how perception of these values and attitudes affects who we are in life. I would like to share this experience with you.

Have you ever thought about who you are and how you appear to others? We all have an image of what we want to be, how we see ourselves, and how we would like to be seen by others. Our vision of who we are is sometimes very different from what others actually see and it all starts with something called group membership. There are two types of groups, the first is Reference and the other is Membership.

A Reference Group is a "group to which we belong or aspire to belong and use as a basis for judging others". Examples of reference groups deal with our military experience (special qualifications or occupational branches), marital and parental status (married/unmarried with or without children),

geographic location (country or neighborhood), educational background (level of civilian or military schooling) and affiliation with organizations (ethnic or religious). These groups can be changed if we want and are generally healthy, friendly and a means of sharing experiences.

A Membership Group is a "group to which we belong, whether we want to or not." Examples of membership groups are race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age and social class. These cannot be changed and are mostly beyond our control. Unfortunately, Membership Groups are sometimes defined by others in negative ways that foster discrimination. Our Membership Group is the most significant factor controlling or influencing how we see the world. Who and what we are and where we are from is very important to each of us because it is a statement of our self-definition.

There is a gap in every normal person between what we want to be and who we actually are and getting from one to the other, or closing the gap is not easy. It requires us to define who we are in a manner that may provide direction that could be positive or negative.

Making the supposition that we all strive to achieve fairness and equality, the journey will involve choosing a positive direction. This self-definition process or voyage of discovery "consists not in seeking new lands, but in seeing with new eyes" as quoted from the French novelist Marcel Proust. I interpret his words as a need to break traditional barriers to change our socialization. Some barriers to change are denial which is to simply refuse

to absorb information, blame, rationalization which justifies why you did something with logic and re-interpretation which turns something around. How can we deal with the barriers of denial, rationalization, and re-interpretation? What will cause us to re-socialize in a positive way? These questions must be answered from within.

The socialization process is all encompassing and deals with our values and attitudes that are constantly being developed and refined based on our daily experiences. Sources influencing our socialization are family, media, peers and friends, teachers and schools, and the early experiences of day care for the younger generation. The biggest source of our socialization is the family which is how you and I were acclimatized into life, at least until we became teenagers.

"What you learn as a child, you play out in adulthood." is sound guidance provided by Ms. Dorothy Miles, Program Manager for our EEO Workshop. This subconscious role playing is relevant in cases of discrimination, and how power affects prejudices. It causes us to stereotype others, affects our attitudes toward others and shapes our basic values. They all equal socialization or re-socialization in cases where negative values and attitudes need to be reversed. If our attitude is one of prejudice or bias, we must change it in a positive way so we can understand how other people's socialization works.

The process of re-socialization begins with the attitude / behavior cycle. This is where your attitude has a positive or negative impact on your behavior (how you react to your

socialization), which further impacts my attitude having a positive or negative impact on my behavior and vice versa. The more optimistic we are in the process, the better we improve our interaction with other's socialization. The spiral can be upward positive or downward negative.

Stereotyping others is a common practice that sometimes leads to disparate treatment which is wrong, but stereotyping in itself can be accepted as part of someone's socialization especially if founded in truth based on actual experience. In other words, it can be a positive thing. It is not OK however, if you use a perceived negative stereotype against a prejudice. This leads to becoming an "ism" as in racism, sexism or extremism.

If you want to change, consider becoming aware of yourself and your behaviors that may be defensive, dishonest or close-minded. Explore the attitudes that may create these behaviors. Be open to accept new information about others, even when their point of view is different from yours. Take responsibility for understanding why things may be different rather than placing blame. Try to improve your communication skills by listening with understanding and offering your honest feedback in a constructive manner. Learn how to advocate something that may not be comfortable to your value system.

Set a goal for change by being realistic. Understand that we cannot stop discrimination overnight, but if we don't set an example for others to follow, it will never stop. Speak up in support of our EO/EEO policies and use my HR Office to assist you wherever and whenever we can.

Help Wanted

Part-time help is wanted. Students, stay-at-home moms, National Guard retirees.

The recent changes to Federal guidelines on Military Funeral Honors has caused a severe shortage of soldiers to provide these honors.

If you have a minimum of two hours to spare, you can earn \$50. That's right, \$50 for every military funeral in which you participate. We will train you.

Contact the local armory in the area in which you spend the majority of your time. Ask to be placed on the roster for Military Funeral Honors.

Priester Receives Service Award

Josie Priester, a processing technician who works for the Military Department at the Hartford Armory, has received the Governor's Service Award. She provides services to retired and active National Guard personnel and their families. When called upon, she at times must research files dating as far back as the Revolutionary War. She is also responsible for providing the payroll department the names of individuals who participate in firing squads for deceased veterans of the armed forces.

The Governor's Service Award program was

established by Governor John G. Rowland to reinforce the importance of quality customer service by recognizing the achievements and successes of state employees. Any state employee can be nominated including managers, supervisors and staff, full- or part-time, individually or in teams. Awards are presented quarterly at a reception hosted by the governor.

Priester received her award from the governor during ceremonies held in the State Capitol Hall of Flags on July 6.

CHAPLAIN'S
CORNER



PURPLE SUITS

Each of the branches of the military in our country has a Chaplaincy as part of its heritage. The chaplains are still an integral part of these services and continue to provide the spiritual and moral support for our military and ensure that each soldier, regardless of their faith commitment, has an opportunity to express and practice that religious commitment.

We are also aware that the military is increasingly working as "Joint" forces. These are often called "Purple Suit Task Forces." We are integrating Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard as we are called up in response to increasingly complicated missions of peace making and peace keeping in our world.

Here in Connecticut we are blessed with Army, Navy and Air Force chaplains

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.)
David Feyrer



within our bounds and we are in the next months to gather together. The purpose of this gathering will be for us to begin to get to know each other, to gain some knowledge about our respective military cultures and to see the operational differences. It is my hope that we will all gain from this sharing and put our chaplains in a position to be more effective in joint situations. This will also enhance our ability to guide our soldiers as they see not only Army and Air Force chaplains, but also those of the Navy.

As part of this effort, in the months ahead you will be hearing from other chaplains, some Air Force, some Navy and some Army, but all chaplains serving in the U.S. military in Connecticut. I invite your interest in these columns and I invite your comments.

The bigger the challenge, the greater the opportunity. - Unknown

Officer Exchange Program Brings the British to America

STORY BY SGT. 1st CLASS DEBBI NEWTON
PHOTO BY 1st SGT. JOHN LANKFORD

More than two centuries ago, American soldiers fought for this country's independence from Great Britain. Now soldiers from both sides of the ocean are coming together to share information and learn from each other. Recently, a British officer from the 75th Engineer Regiment, 107th Field Squadron, Territorial Army, stationed in Liverpool, visited the Connecticut Army National Guard to do just that.

Capt. Mark Gray has been a member of the British equivalent of the National Guard for 14 years and was glad to have the opportunity to share with, and learn from, American soldiers.

"They ask for volunteers for the exchange program," Gray said. "I was approached and was told, 'Hope you don't mind, Sir, we've been asked to submit volunteer names for the exchange, and we put your name in.'" The application then went forward to the Ministry of Defense in London, where the final decision was made. Gray was one of 19 British officers chosen for this year's program. Most of the officers came from the Territorial Army, the Naval Reserve and the Royal Auxiliary of the Air Force.

Gray then came to the United States where he spent two weeks with the State Area Command (STARC) visiting such places as AVCRAD (Aviation, Classification, Repair Activity Depot), West Point, the Sub Base in New London, the AASF (Army Aviation Support Facility), the 169th Leadership Regiment, and the 242nd and 192nd Engineer battalions' construction sites at Stone's Ranch and Camp Rowland. He also spent time at OpSail 2000.

He was impressed with how much alike the two country's militaries are. As he explained what his unit does, it became clear that there are a great deal of similarities. For example, Gray is a part-time soldier

"I train with my unit one evening per week, every other weekend and two weeks annually, usually in Scotland," said Gray. "The average soldier will train for a total of 27 days a year, but general officers put in 50 to 60 days per year."

Gray's unit is a General Support Regiment that is allied to a Rapid Reaction Force. He is the American equivalent to a Combat Engineer Squadron executive officer. "We are responsible for a broad spectrum of combat engineer tasks including



Col. Bruce Byrne, commander of the 169th Leadership Regiment, gives Capt. Mark Gray of the 75th Engineer Regiment, 107th Field Squadron, Territorial Army, Great Britain, a briefing on the Leadership regiment and the consolidated Officer Candidate School program taking place there.

maneuverability, survivability and counter-mobility," said Gray. "We are to keep the main supply routes open, provide culverts and bridges when needed, provide route denial through anti-tank obstacles and we provide the water supply."

Within the squadron, there are 142 soldiers broken down into three Field Troops; Plant, Small Squadron Headquarters and Echelon.

The Plant Troop is a support troop that has tractors and dump trucks and would be responsible for NBC decontamination in wartime. "We have no offensive NBC capabilities at all," said Gray. "It is all defensive."

The Small Squadron Headquarters consists of administrative personnel, clerks, a squadron sergeant major and a small recon team.

The Echelon Troop is the G4, quartermaster section and a permanent captain for

administration.

"We are fairly well integrated with the Regular Army," said Gray. "There is a warrant officer QMSI (Quartermaster Sergeant Instructor), usually the most experienced officer on the combat engineer side, who facilitates training. In times of war, his role is a total advisory capacity. There is also a Regular Army staff sergeant for G3 for training with the QMSI. He is responsible for booking training areas, managing projects and trade training. There is also a Regimental sergeant, G4, responsible for squadron stores (supplies). In wartime, our numbers would go up to 188 soldiers."

And while there are many similarities, Gray also mentioned the differences.

"Your Guard is bigger," he said. "You have a full aviation facility. We don't. Your AVCRAD is a huge facility, very

impressive. The attitudes here of everyone are totally positive, from your general on down. Your general has a totally positive vision for the Guard. It's exceptional. He wants to make this the best Guard in the country."

As a civilian, Gray is a barrister, which he explained is different from a lawyer, or solicitors as they are called in Great Britain. "Barristers can only take work from solicitors. We give legal opinions and make courtroom appearances." Gray has served as a barrister for three years. He is also a chartered (licensed) engineer professional on the manufacturing side.

When he's not giving legal opinions, making courtroom appearances or serving his country, Gray likes to spend time with his wife Susan, a dentist, and their three children, Rebecca, seven; James, six; and Rachael, two, on family holidays, sailing, windsurfing and walking in the hills.

The NCO Academy Distance Learning Program

By CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL
103rd FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

It is 6 p.m. on a cool mid-June Tuesday at the Alpena Michigan Combat Readiness Training Center. Most of the 400 deployed members of the 103rd Fighter Wing are planning to relax through exercising or socializing.

The unit is here to prepare for a deployment next fall as part of the Expeditionary Air Force. This is the last opportunity for the unit to deploy intact, so members are want to relax away the tension of the day's work.

Two sergeants are preparing for a different challenge as they pass the lines for phones and cold drinks at the base exchange. For these two, the challenge is to prepare for their future as non-commissioned officers.

These sergeants are the first ever Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) Academy Distance Learning Program students to take the class while deployed. Back at home station, Bradley Air National Guard Base (ANGB), seven other sergeants are settled into their seats for the same class within commuting distance of their homes.

Staff Sgt. Dean P. Farnsworth, finance specialist with the 103rd Fighter Wing and Staff Sgt. Joseph C. Turner life support specialist with the 118th Fighter Squadron are settled in for four hours of professional military education.

"There is plenty of stuff to be done for having fun," said Farnsworth. "There's stuff to do if you want to progress, and I want to progress so I don't have a problem coming here on Tuesday and Thursday nights."

The distance learning program is relatively new. This is only the fifth NCO Academy class to use distance learning, four classes have been completed," according to Tech. Sgt. Mark J. Penney, an NCO Academy instructor and security specialist with the 103rd Security Forces Squadron.

Only one class is held per time zone each year. So if Farnsworth and Turner could not take the class deployed it would have been a yearlong wait to begin another class, explained the site administrator for the class, Tech. Sgt. Michael T. Craddy of the 103rd Maintenance Squadron.

As Farnsworth tests the microphone connection to see if they are online for the interactive class, the instructors on the monitor at the Air National Guard Training and Education Center welcome the two deployed students.

Craddy noted the potential to keep students enrolled despite major deployments through the process they are attempting at Alpena.

Craddy added that without the two students taking the class deployed, the home station class may not have been available. A minimum of eight students is required to

offer the class at a site, while there were only seven not deployed at Bradley.

The two-way hookup functioning, the class moved along until a brief break where students and instructors agreed, that deployed or not, this is a particularly challenging way to complete the NCO Academy.

"Students say this is the hardest way to do it [the course], family, work, deployments and the course workload," said Craddy pointing to the thick three ring binders that take up most of the small desk surfaces in front of the students. "You have to give these people a lot of credit for this, if they miss four classes they are out of the course."

"It's tough to fill all the deployment squares during the deployment and attempt to do the school at night," said Turner. Does he recommend taking the course this way to others? "If they really wanted to advance their career it is a good thing."

The benefits from this form of in-residence PME extend beyond the knowledge gained from the course material. "I wanted to do the course in residence in some way since I'm not good at correspondence courses and I don't think you get the full effect from them," said Farnsworth.

Senior Master Sgt. John W. Hancock, Bradley ANG Base training manager with the 103rd Mission Support Flight, agrees with him, "In the NCO Academy distance learning program we get people from a mix of different squadrons together. After the training, they work on other base wide programs with these same NCO's. It is a great side benefit to meet other NCO's while they are all junior many who you will work with the rest of their careers."

The two will join with the group at Bradley to continue the course two nights a week until September, followed by two weeks in residence at McGhee Tyson ANG Base in Tennessee. The other options to complete the NCO Academy are a six week in-residence course or correspondence courses.

By 7 p.m., the line for the phone is only one deep to call home, but the students have three quarters of the class remaining before they can call home that evening.

WALL OF FAME ESTABLISHED

By COL. BRUCE BYRNE,
169th LEADERSHIP REGIMENT COMMANDER

Recently, Major General William A. Cugno, the adjutant general of Connecticut, approved a proposal to establish a Connecticut Army National Guard Officer Candidate School (CTARNG OCS) Hall of Fame in the headquarters of the 169th Leadership Regiment/ Regional Training Institute at Camp Rowland in Niantic. Membership will be open to graduates of CTARNG OCS who attain the rank of

COMMISSARY & EXCHANGE DIRECTORY

Here is a current directory of area commissaries and exchanges along with their phone numbers. Always call ahead to verify hours as they may change without notice. A valid i.d. card is necessary to use these facilities. Contact your unit administrator if you or your dependants need a card. If you have trouble, contact the State Family Program Office at 1-800-858-2677.

CAMP ROWLAND POST EXCHANGE

MONDAY: Closed
TUESDAY – SATURDAY: 10:00 – 5:00
SUNDAY: 10:00 – 4:00
Phone: (860) 739-9672

ARMY RESERVE CENTER

700 South Quaker Lane
West Hartford, CT
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 10:00 – 1:00
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 1:45 – 4:00
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: Closed
Phone: (860) 236-3393

WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE

Chicopee, Mass.
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 10:00 – 5:00
SATURDAY: 10:00 – 5:00
SUNDAY: 11:00 – 5:00
Phone: (413) 593-5583

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

East Granby
TUESDAY – FRIDAY: 10:00 – 5:00
SATURDAY: 10:00 – 4:00
SUNDAY & MONDAY: Closed
UTAs: Open Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 – 5:00
Phone: (860) 653-6994

COAST GUARD STATION

120 Woodward Avenue
New Haven, CT
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 9:00 – 4:30
SATURDAY: 9:00 – 2:00
SUNDAY: Closed
Phone: (203) 468-2712

SUB BASE, NEW LONDON

Exchange Hours:
MON., TUES., WED., FRI.: 9:00 – 6:00
THURSDAY: 9:00 – 7:00
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 9:00 – 5:00
HOLIDAYS: 9:00 – 4:00
Phone: (860) 694-3811
Commissary Hours:
MONDAY: Closed
TUE., WED. & FRI.: 9:00 – 6:00
THURSDAY: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
SATURDAY: 8:00 – 5:00
SUNDAY: 10:00 – 5:00
Phone: (860) 694-2244

COAST GUARD ACADEMY

New London
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 9:00 – 5:00
SATURDAY: 9:00 – 3:00
SUNDAY: Closed
Phone: (860) 444-8488

WEST POINT, NEW YORK

Exchange Hours:
SATURDAY – WEDNESDAY:
10:00 – 6:00
THURSDAY & FRIDAY: 10:00 – 7:00
Phone: (914) 446-5406
Commissary Hours:
MONDAY: Closed
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY:
10:00 – 6:00
THURSDAY: 10:00 – 7:00
FRIDAY: 10:00 – 6:00
SATURDAY: 9:00 – 5:00
SUNDAY: 11:00 – 5:00
Phone: (914) 446-5406

colonel (O6) or higher while in active service. This will include members of the United States Army Reserves who are/were CTARNG OCS graduates.

Initially, the Hall of Fame will consist of 8"x10" photos of all eligible members displayed on the walls of a "hall of honor" or existing conference room. Later, a computer kiosk will be added to allow visitors to access a database and view on-screen the military biographies of the honorees, together with their digitized photos. Visitors will also be able to print copies of biographies through the kiosk.

The process of identifying eligible Hall of Fame members has begun. Past yearbooks are being screened, graduates are being contacted and lists are being assembled. But we need the assistance of CTARNG

OCS graduates, both past and recent, in order to have results that are as accurate and complete as possible. Please send the names and class years of any officers who you know are eligible for membership in the CTARNG OCS Hall of Fame. Lists should be sent to: HQ 169th Leadership Regiment, Attn: 1st Lt. Connelly, Camp Rowland, Niantic, CT 06357. Photos and biographies may also be submitted to the same address, starting immediately.

Your support of this project is appreciated. In the future, a formal dedication will take place when the Hall of Fame is moved into its permanent location in the new Regimental Headquarters building planned for Camp Rowland.



RETIREE'S VOICE

By Col. (Ret.) Bob Kelly

I RECENTLY MAILED 1500 INVITATIONS TO OUR AUGUST 16TH RETIREE'S PICNIC AT CAMP ROWLAND, NANTIC, CT. IF YOU RECEIVE THE CONNECTICUT GUARDIAN YOU WOULD HAVE RECEIVED AN INVITATION. BECAUSE I HAVE RECEIVED BACK HUNDREDS OF INVITATIONS WITH BAD ADDRESSES I AM ON A

MISSION TO LOCATE OR REMOVE THOSE RETIREEES FROM OUR MAILING LIST.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NAMES THAT HOPEFULLY REQUIRE NEW ADDRESSES OR INFORMATION THAT THEY ARE NO LONGER WITH US.

ACEVEDO, LUIS M
ADAMS, RONALD
BARNES, DAVID A
BENIGNI, ROBERT L
BESAW, ROBERT
BILCZ, DENNIS
BLACKSTONE, CARL
BOLING, WAYNE, SR
BRISSETTE, ROGER
BROWN, CHARLES
BURRY, H MAXWELL
CONNOLE, ANDREW
DAMICO, JOSEPH
DAVIS, RICHARD
DELONARDO, MICHAEL
DONATH, CLARENCE B
DRAKES, KENDRICK
ROLDAN, CARMELLO
FLETECHER, WAYNE
FORD, JOHN
FREEDMAN, IRVING DR
GELECKER, ROBERT & LOIS
SOBLESKI, LENORD
GUARINO, RAYMOND
GUERTIN, JOSEPH
GUILLMARTIN, BRIAN
HADDAD, EDWARD
HALLORAN, THOMAS E
HARDING, WILLIAM JR
HERMAN, JESSE
HESS, KENNETH
HIGGINS, JOHN L
HOWARD, BRUCE, C
JAMES, CONNIE
JENKINS, ALLEN
JORDAN, JOSEPH

JOYCE, HAROLD
JOYNER, MILTON
JUDD, DONALD
KENNEY, ED
KENNY, EDWARD F
KEYES, WILLIAM
KIELY, JOSEPH E JR.
KOLODZIEJ, ELIZABETH
LARSON, ERNEST
MARGESON, RICHARD A
MARIN, TERRY E
MURPHY, DANIEL
OUELLETTE, RONALD
PABON, NESTOR P
PELLIETIER, PIERRETTE
RIOS, JUSTO
ELLIS, JOEL
SACCO, DON
SAYLES, ROBERT
SCARLETT, GREGORY
SHOCKLEY, ALAN
SHOWRONSKI, WILLIAM
SOKOL, JOSEPH
SQUIRES, GEORGE
TENEKOW, JACK
TOMASELLI, ELMER
TORREN, SANTOF
TROY, PETER
TRYON, LOUIS R
VARNEY, DENNIS
VALEZ, ANGEL
WHITE, WILLIAM
WHITEHEAD, KENNETH
JANTON, EDWARD
JOHNSON, JOHNNY

I HAVE A SUSPICION THAT SOME OF THE NAMES ON THE DATA BASE MAY NOT ACTUALLY BE RETIREE'S. NAMES MAY BE ADDED AS SOLDIERS CHANGE CAREER COURSES FROM AGR TO TECHNICIAN TO M-DAY OR ANY SIMILAR TYPE MOVES.

PLEASE FURNISH ANY ADDRESS CORRECTIONS DIRECTLY TO ME:

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214 CHURCH ST

WETHERSFIELD, CT 60190

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I HAVE RECEIVED BACK ABOUT 50 QUESTIONNAIRES TO DATE AND WILL PASS ON THE RESULTS NEXT MONTH. THE LONG DISTANCE AWARD GOES TO WILLIAM K WYNN OF KAPOLEI, HAWAII. HE RETIRED IN 1971 BEING A WWII OFFICER WHO BEGAN HIS CAREER IN 1939 WITH SERVICE COMPANY OF THE 169TH INFANTRY. BILL MENTIONED JOHN HIGGINS (WHOSE ADDRESS I NEED), ELSEL HANSEN AND BOD SCHWOLSKY (BOTH FLORIDA RETIREEES).

ALSO RECEIVED A NOTE AND A PHOTO FROM LT.COL W. HUNTINGTON JR OF UNCASVILLE, CONNECTICUT. THE PHOTO OF THE STAFF OFFICERS OF THE 238TH AAA BN (GUN 90MM) WAS TAKEN IN 1954 AT CAMP WELLFLEET MASS. I REMEMBER SOME OF THE NAMES

(DEMUTH, PRIVITAL, KEATING, MASON, HANSEN, BETTENCOURT, GRAY, DREASEN, WILSON, WINTHROP, HUNTINGTON, AND COOK. UNFORTUNATELY HUNTINGTON WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE PICNIC.

JUST RECEIVED THE CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD RETIREEES OF FLORIDA NEWS LETTER. THAT ORGANIZATION DOES A GREAT JOB RUNNING A REUNION EVERY MARCH. THIS YEAR THEY HAD 45 ATTENDEES WITH 21 GUESTS FOR THE 3 DAY AFFAIR HIGHLIGHTED BY A DINNER THEATER MUSICAL ONE NIGHT AND A MURDER MYSTERY THEATER AT WALT DISNEY WORLD THE OTHER EVENING. THE LIST OF ATTENDEES READS LIKE A WHO'S WHO IN THE NATIONAL GUARD. INFORMATION ON THE 2001 REUNION (2,3,4 MARCH) WILL BE PUBLISHED IN A LATER COLUMN.

I'M STILL LOOKING FOR COMMENTS, STORIES, CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ME TO PASS ON IN FUTURE COLUMNS. ONE COMPLIANT THAT I'VE HEARD ON TOO MANY OCCASIONS IS ABOUT THE RETIREEES LAST DRILL. THE ONLY GUY THAT HAD ANY INTEREST IN HIS LEAVING THE UNIT WAS THE SUPPLY SERGEANT. SHOULDN'T A SOLDIERS LAST DAYS IN THE GUARD BE AS IMPORTANT AS THE DAY THE RECRUITER WAS TRYING TO ENLIST HIM 20 YEARS AGO?

TILL NEXT MONTH



